Transporter
Vol. 35 No. 3 April 2001

'We'll get you through' — Bergen County, that is

Commissioner James Weinstein and Project Manager Robert Lee viewed one of the eight Bergen County construction projects with Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco and local Bergen County officials earlier this month.

Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco joined Commissioner James Weinstein on the Routes 4 and 208 construction site in Fair Lawn on April 9 to kick off the first of eight major projects in Bergen County worth $400 million that will be under way over the next five years.

"Well over 100,000 motorists a day use the Routes 4 and 208 merge," Commissioner Weinstein said. "The work at this location will improve conditions overall and provide for easier access to the Garden State Parkway. With input from local citizens and officials, we have developed a program to keep our impacts to a minimum on the traveling public."

Carter

According to **Bill Carter**, Project Manager for $32 million Routes 4 and 208 job, **John Knapp**, **Joe Hoyer**, **Dave Bizuga** and **Dante Sadama** anchored the in-house design effort while **Jeff Hewitson** led the quality assurance team. "They and their teams deserve recognition for a job well done," he said.

"Once this intersection is completed, it will be a huge safety improvement for those who travel through," said **Phil Petrowski**, Resident Engineer. "We're working with Bishop, Sanzari and Creamer, the contractors who completed the Routes 4 and 17 interchange and the Ridgewood Avenue over Route 17 projects months ahead of schedule. Right now this project is 10 percent complete."

Some projects will overlap others. For example, in July construction will continue on Route 4 from Farview Avenue in Paramus to Johnson Avenue in River Edge to match completed construction projects to the east and west. **Manny Viteri** is heading this undertaking.

Knaster

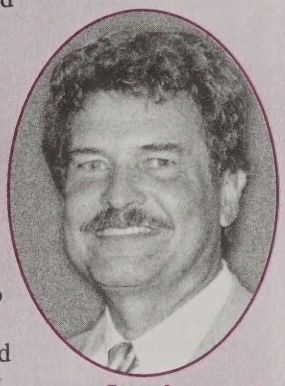
Meanwhile on I-80, Project Manager **Polina Knaster** and Resident Engineer **Richard Spoerl** are steering the rehabilitation of bridge structures and roadways, installation of noise barriers and the extension of auxiliary lanes from the Garden State Parkway in Saddle Brook to Route 17 in Hackensack.

Robert Lee will manage the other Route I-80 projects, the first of which will run from the interchange with Route 17 in Hackensack to the Vreeland Avenue exit in South Hackensack. Other sections will start in August 2003.

Project Manager **George Kuhn** will head the Route 17/Essex Street drainage project from March 2002 to December 2003. **Shan Sundaram** will manage the Route 46/Main Street Intersection project from Spring 2004 through Spring 2006.

To keep Bergen County motorists moving smoothly through five years of major construction, area travelers have to know when there'll be a traffic jam and when the road is clear.

"To assist motorists and commuters as these projects get under way, NJDOT and NJ TRANSIT have developed a mitigation plan to promote the easiest and safest way through the construction, including additional bus service, vanpools, shuttles and new signs," said Commissioner Weinstein.

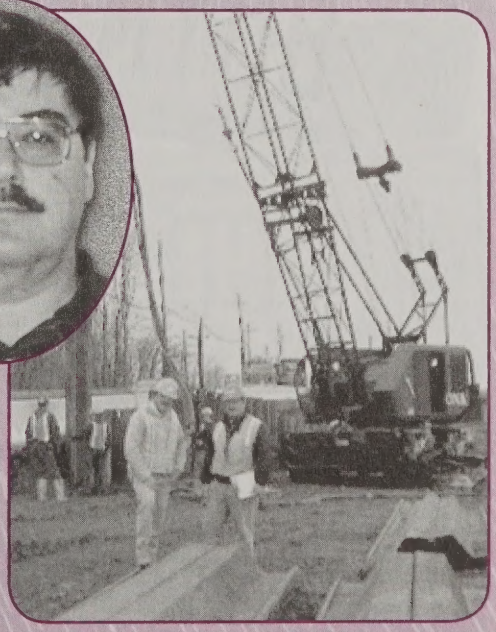


Spoerl

NJDOT and NJ TRANSIT Communications Offices have produced literature about the construction, and radio advertising to promote public transit, carpools and vanpools. For daily updates on construction delays and other project information, click on www.njcommuter.com — you'll see the "We'll Get You Through" logo — or call (877) NJROADS. You can go online at njtransit.com for bus and train information.

Traffic Operations North will use portable variable message signs, highway advisory radios, closed circuit television to advise of changed traffic patterns. NJDOT's Emergency Service Patrol will be on the job, all day, every day for the entire project.

Petrowski



Philip Petrowski, Resident Engineer, and George Jodeksnis, C&M Tech 1, discuss the temporary sheeting operation on Route 208 northbound.

NJDOT partners for work zone safety

The Main Office Building lobby, hallways and Multi-purpose Room buzzed with exhibitors, employees, speakers and guests as NJDOT launched a Work Zone Safety Awareness Week 2001 Conference on April 5.

John Spedding, Chairman of the Employee Memorial Committee, presents a certificate to Robert Lewandowski of the NJ Laborers Health and Safety Fund as a tribute to his organization's work zone safety practices.

"National Work Zone Safety Week calls the public's attention to efforts across the country to make construction zones on our roads safer for workers and easier for motorists and pedestrians to travel around," said Commissioner James Weinstein.

Honoring employees who lost their lives while working on highways was fitting.

"We at NJDOT— as well as all our partners in government and industry— know that because we are out working on the roads and potentially putting ourselves in harm's way, work zone safety is an issue we and the motoring public must be vigilant about every day, around the clock," the Commissioner said.

An impressive roster of conference speakers included keynote speaker Patricia Clark, OSHA Regional Administrator, US Department of Labor, NJ State Police Lt. Colonel Barry Roberson, Assistant Commissioner **Rod Roberson**, Brad Sargent of the American Traffic Safety Services Association or ATSSA, Director William Freeman of the Department of Corrections, NJDOT's **Anker Winther**, **Bill Birch** and **Lee Steiner**, NJ Highway Traffic Safety Director Colonel Peter O'Hagen, Kurt Noe of Camden County and Angelo Paparello of Union County.

NJDOT Resident Engineers who received "Most Positive Project" recognition by the Annual Traffic Control Plan Review for their work on New Jersey's roadways, or sections of those roadways, included **Alex Borovskis** for Route 24, **Frank Cole** for Bridge Deck Patch, **Wayne Rumsey** for Route 23 and Route 80, **Richard Treloar** for Route 35 and Route 71, **John Szafranski** for Routes 70, 34 and 35, **William Delucia** for Route 29, **Mitri Hadid** for Route 295, **Tony Guerrieri** for Routes 50 and 322, and **Ed Ramsey** for Routes 50 and 9.

Lee Steiner exits the podium after receiving a certificate for his commitment to work zone safety. In the background are Steve Cook and Al Ari.

Deputy Commissioner Al Ari opened the noon awards ceremonies. The tone was somber as we remembered those who died in the line of duty; but hopeful as we recognized those who regularly promote work zone safety. Steve Cook, Chief of

Continued on back page

New plates feature conservation, health and education

New Jersey drivers now have three more options as decorative finishes to their automobiles. And they all benefit worthy causes.

Motorists who purchase the Meadowlands plates would help to permanently conserve the lands within the Hackensack Meadowlands and/or within the Hackensack River watershed through the Meadowlands Conservation Trust. The pastel colored plate will help secure the approximate 20,000 Meadowlands acres in Bergen and Hudson counties, a third of which remains as wetlands.

Supporting a health care facility that received the national 1999 Best Practice Award is good; additionally receiving a colorful "red heart" plate for your vehicle is better. Monies from the sale of the Deborah Hospital Foundation plate will be used for programs and services provided by the hospital to benefit persons with heart and lung disorders, regardless of race, color, religion, age, national origin, handicap or ability to pay.

The new Slain Officer plates are the first in the nation to honor all law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, and pay tribute to the 300 New Jersey law enforcement officers slain since 1960. Their children will receive college scholarships from the proceeds of the sales.

The Meadowlands and Deborah non-personalized plates are currently available for a $50 application fee (personalized are $100) and $10 additional yearly registration fee. To date motorists have purchased 39 Meadowlands and 122 Deborah plates. The Slain Officer plates will be available in the fall.

For information about purchasing special plates, call (888) 486-3339 toll free from New Jersey or (609) 292-6500 from out of state.

Transporter

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People Briefs

Retirees

Feted by her co-workers at Rossi's in Ledgewood last month for her March 30 retirement, Principal Clerk Typist **Jean M. Iliohan** joined the Department's Mt. Arlington Office 14 years ago on a temporary one year assignment. Iliohan worked as a replacement for her daughter, Linda Anderson, who took a maternity leave.

Iliohan

December 2000

Frank Tedeschi, after 28 years, Safety Specialist 1 MVS and **Patricia Sondej**, after 14 years, Technician MIS.

January 2001

Paul Hartle, after 36 years, Construction and Maintenance Technician 1, Operations; **Robert Meola**, after 36 years, Engineering Technician 2, CPM; **Robert Baker**, after 35 years, Project Engineer Research, Office of the Assistant Commissioner CPM; **Harold McGraw**, after 35 years, Truck Driver Single Axle, Operations; **Carl Burda**, after 34 years, Crew Supervisor Mechanics, Operations; **Jakob Mahler**, after 33 years, Principal Engineer Transportation, Planning & Development; **Ronald McGraw**, after 32 years, Truck Driver Single Axle, Operations; **Lester Redd**, after 31 years, Equipment Operator, Operations; **John Cimbala**, after 28 years, Electrician, Support Services; **Edward Stella**, after 28 years, Machinist, Operations; **Paul Menichelli**, after 27 years, Supervisor Engineer Electrical, **James Yeager**, after 27 years, Engineer Specifications Transportation, Office of the Assistant Commissioner, CPM; **Daniel Wedo**, after 25 years, Aeronautical Operations Specialist, Aeronautics and Freight Services; **Robert Syrek**, Safety Specialist 1 DMV, MVS; **Robert Schaeffer**, Senior Repairer, Operations; **Leonard Mannicci**, after 16 years, Construction and Maintenance Technician 4, Operations; **Diane Butchin**, after 15 years, Senior Clerk Stenographer, Operations; **George Herudek**, after 14 years, Administrative Analyst 2 Management Auditor, MVS; **William Holden**, after 14 years, Senior Railroad Inspector, CPM; and **Carl Price**, after 10 years, Senior ROW Negotiator, CPM.

February 2001

John Boylan, after 41 years, Manager 2, ROW; **James Cotton**, after 35 years, Auto Mechanic, Operations; **Roderick Parker**, after 34 years, Crew Supervisor Electrical, Operations; **Raymond Lanigan**, after 32 years, Project Manager Transportation, CPM; **Ulrich Steinberg**, after 32 years, Project Engineer Construction, CPM; **Helene Kondash**, after 22 years, Support Services Representative 2, MVS; and **Richard Oliva**, after 7 years, Bridge Operator, Operations.

March 2001

Orest Senyk, after 32 years, Project Engineer Research, Transportation Research and Data Technology; **David Cox**, after 29 years, Project Engineer Planning, Transportation Systems Planning; and **Gary Clymer**, after 15 years, Construction and Maintenance 3, Operations.

Run or walk for cancer cure

Join your fellow NJDOTers walk or run for the American Cancer Society in Hopewell Township's Rosedale Park for the 26 hour race on June 8 and 9. The cost is $10 to enter the fundraiser to help research a cure. If you're interested in joining the walk or run, or wish to make a donation, please call **Pat Bowker** at (609) 530-3741, **Ceil Witkowski** at (609) 530-3476 or **Joe Barna** at (609) 341-3317.

Fore!

NJDOTers interested in the Fifth Annual Central Region Gold Tournament at Spring Meadow Golf Course in Allaire on June 5 should contact **John Shikoluk** at Central Region Construction at (732) 308-4076.

Enrollment is limited to the first 40 paid entrants.

'Lifestyles' program tops 100

The 22 attendees at the Judicial Volunteering Lifestyles program didn't know it, but they participated in a milestone. The 100th of the programs, which are designed to help employees bridge the gap between work and life through informational seminars, was held on March 21 at Headquarters.

Said **Rich Taylor** of Human Resources, "We've had programs on diabetes, colon cancer, organ donation, natural foods and arthritis. Next we'll schedule sessions on skin cancer and Habitat for Humanity. Look for the notices with your paychecks."

For information or suggestions about the program, call Taylor at (609) 530-6399.

New addition

MVS Principal Postal Clerk **George Case** of the Mail Processing Unit and his wife Lori welcomed Victoria Alexis on January 30. Weighing in at 8 pounds, 11 ounces "Tori" (as she'll be known) joins big brother Robby.

Obituaries

Retired NJDOT Maintenance Supervisor **Albert Mannifield** died February 24 in Trenton. The Army veteran of World War II in the European Theatre is survived by his wife Rose Marie, daughters Kathleen Sobolewski and Kimberly Creighton and a son Keith.

Former MVS employee **Francis Modica** died March 1 in Lawrence. Survivors include her sister Florence and many nephews and nieces.

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Veterans, get listed

Current NJDOTers who have served in the US military branches are invited to submit their names with the branch of service, and year and rank at discharge to Tesa Danaso in the Communications Office by May 2. You must submit your work telephone number for inclusion on the Memorial Day list.

AASHTO recognizes top team performance

Commissioner James Weinstein, Deputy Commissioner Al Ari and Chief of Staff Laurie Gutshaw presented the AASHTO Team Recognition Award in five categories on March 26. They were:

Local Bridge Initiative. Sal Baig, Harry Capers, Tom Carbone, Dick Dunne, Andy Fekete, Bill Gerding, Bob Goslin, Bob Harris, Bub Kovacs, Jack Lettiere, Jerey Mooney, Mark Stout and Marty Tobin. Helene Cook of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and others who worked with the Department and FHWA in this initiative were Michael Amorosa, Mike Barrett, Shay Burrows, Joe Caruso, Tim Chelius, Charles Dougerty, Dale Foster, Dick Lane and Colette Santasieri.

Environment. Bill Hoffman, Don Borowski, Nancy Ciaruffoli, Henry Schweber and former NJDOTer Mike Strizki as Team New Jersey, received the 2000 AASHTO Award for the development of the first zero emission hydrogen fuel cell-powered car for competition.

Air Voids. Ellen Callahan, Eileen Connolly, Paul Hofmann, Mike Gross, Warren Howard, Mary Joe Merlo, Hadi Pezeshki (FHWA) and Dick Weed received the AASHTO Award for development of an approved hot mix asphalt that ensured in place air voids.

Commissioner James Weinstein congratulates Harry Capers and Sal Baig of the Local Bridge Initiative Group for their AASHTO award.

Routes 4 & 17. Bill Carter, John Dourgarian, Meg Frampton, John Gahwyler, Jim Gilligan (NJ TRANSIT), David Hawk (FHWA), Debbie Hirt, Camille Sinclair and Warren Vincentz received the AASHTO Award for construction of Routes 4 & 17 Interchange and their traffic mitigation program for the 285,000 motorists who use it every day.

Enhancement Programs. Bob Goslin, Joseph Jagniatkowski, Albert Maiocchi, Stephen Moy, Randy Prescott, Lauralee Rappleye-Marsett, Tony Sabadussi and Robert Werkmeister, accepted the AASHTO Award for Headquarters Local Government Services, Region 1 Local Government Services Headquarters 3 and 4 and Environmental Services.

Work zone safety Continued from page 2

Staff for Senator Peter Inverso and former NJDOT employee, read the legislative resolutions that proclaimed this week New Jersey Work Zone Safety Awareness Week.

Those organizations awarded certificates of recognition for their commitment to work zone safety by NJDOT included the Federal Highway Administration, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, OSHA (US Department of Labor), New Jersey State Police, New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, New Jersey Department of Corrections, Rutgers University, American Traffic Safety Services Association, NJ Laborers Health & Safety Fund, NJ State Safety Council, General Laborers Locals 172 and 472, Construction Industry Advancement Program of NJ, Utility and Transportation Contractors Association and the County and Municipal Transportation Engineers Association.